

Applicant: Zurcher, Robert G.
Application Serial No.: 09/922,620
Filing Date: August 6, 2001
Docket No.: 102-477 CIP (P-3522/1P1)
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B. Amendments to the Specification

Please amend the specification to read as follows:

On page 8, please replace paragraph [0026] with the following:

A1 B5

--Thus, the shield of the present invention locks the needle in the elongate recess by a double locking mechanism which securely and permanently locks the shield over the needle. Alternative locking and closure mechanisms for the protective shield may be used. The locking assemblies desirably provide a secure locking position of the shield relative to the needle so as to prevent a used needle from being exposed against inadvertent tough contact by the user.--

On page 8, please replace paragraph [0027] with the following:

A2 B6 9/24/03

--The shield assembly **40** is mounted to the infusion needle assembly **10** by clip **64**. Clip **64** includes two spaced apart clip extensions **64a** and **64b** which surround wings **20** and **22** adjacent housing **12**. The clip extensions **64a** and **64b** are flexible members, which may be used to snap clip **64** onto housing **12** in conventional fashion. In that regard, clip extends **64a** and **64b** each have a living hinge **67** and **68**, respectively, which enables them to be positionable about the wings **20** and **22** adjacent to the housing **12**. The clip **64** and shield **50** may be integrally formed as a unitary article of manufacture and having a hinge axis **24** therebetween. Useful types of structures forming hinge [axis] **24** include mechanical hinges and various linkages, living hinges or combinations of hinges and linkages.--

On page 9, please replace paragraph [0029] with the following:

A3 B7

--Although a living hinge is the preferred hinge mechanism, any type of hinge axis that is capable of moving the shield about the housing [hub] of the assembly is suitable for use with the present invention. Acceptable hinges include mechanical hinges and various linkages, living hinges or combinations of hinges and linkages. For instance, the shield may be connected to the

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a3 housing by a hanging bar and hook arm whereby the hanging bar engages with the hook arm so that the shield may be pivoted with respect to the collar and the shield is easily movable into several positions. Thus, the shield may be ~~connected to~~ connected to the housing by an interference fit between the hanger bar and the hook arm.--

On page 10, please replace paragraph [0033] with the following:

a4
39 --The shield assembly **140** in FIGS. 3 and 4 has its hinge ~~axis~~ **124** on the distal or needle side of the housing **112b**. In this embodiment, the proximal protrusions **172** and **174** engage the housing **112** on the distal end of the housing ~~112b~~ **112a**. The distal protrusion **170** engages the needle **114** in an identical manner as in the first embodiment shown in FIGS. 1 and 2.--